

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

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TAGS: ML, MR, SG, PFOR

SUBJ: THIRD OMVS SUMMIT MEETING IN BAMAKO

1. THE THIRD ANNUAL CHIEFS OF STATE SUMMIT MEETING OF ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SENEGAL RIVER (OMVS) WAS HELD IN BAMAKO JULY 24-25, 1974. PARTICIPANTS FROM ALL THREE MEMBER COUNTRIES ATTEND INCLUDING PRESIDENT SENGHOR OF SENEGAL, PRESIDENT MOKTAR OULD DADDAH OF MAURITANIA AND PRESIDENT MOUSSA TRAORE OF MALI.

2. APPROVAL WAS GIVEN BY THE CHIEFS OF STATES TO RECENT DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE OMVS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IN MAURITANIA RELATING TO:

A. EACH MEMBER COUNTRY'S RESPONSIBILITY IN CARRYING OUT COMMON WORK INTEREST.

B. MANAGEMENT OF THESE WORK INTERESTS BY MIXED AGENCIES REPRESENTING MALI, MAURITANIA, AND SENEGAL.

C. JOINT GUARANTEE OF LOANS BY ALL THREE MEMBER COUNTRIES FOR THE FINANCING OF COMMON INTEREST WORKS.

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3. SPEECHES WERE GIVEN BY ALL THREE PRESIDENTS IN SUPPORT OF OMVS AND THE WARM RELATIONSHIP EXISTING AMONG THEIR COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, PRESIDENT SENGHOR EMPHASIZED THAT THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM FACING OMVS IS NOT FINANCIAL BUT "OUR POLITICAL WILL- SENEGAL, MALI AND MAURITANIA-TO ENHANCE AND CREATE, TOGETHER, OUR RESPOUCES AND SKILLS".

4. THE RESULTS OF THE SUMMIT REVEALED THAT SEVERAL COUNTRIES INCLUDING CANADA, FRANCE, IRAN AND WEST GERMANY AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS BAD, BIRD AND FED HAVE PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS. SPECIFIC PLEDGES WERE NOT INDICATED. SAUDIA ARABIA, HOWEVER, HAS PROMISED A 33 MILLION DOLLAR DONATION AND THE U.S., ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT SENGHOR, WILL SOON ANNOUNCE THE SPECIFIC AMOUNT IT WILL MAKE AVAILABLE.

5. PRESIDENT SENGHOR ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF OMVS ARE:

A. CONSTRUCTION OF THE DIAMA DAM WHICH WILL BE USED FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES.

B. CONSTRUCTION OF THE MANANTALI DAM WHICH WILL BE USED BOTH FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES AND AS A HYDROELECTRICAL DAM.

C. IMPROVE THE PORT AT SAINT LOUIS.

D. CONSTRUCTION OF A PORT AT KAYES.

E. RENOVATION OF PORT FACILITIES.

F. RENOVATION OF PORT ENTRANCES.

COMMENT: PARTICIPANTS AT SUMMIT APPEARED PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF MEETINGS BUT EMBASSY SEES VERY LITTLE ACCOMPLISHED AS FAR AS THE FINANCING OF MAJOR PROJECTS SUCH AS THE MANANTALI DAM.

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